



## Memorandum

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**To:** Chief Academic Officers and Provost

**From:** Paula Compton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Articulation and Transfer

**Date:** June 11, 2019

**Subject:** Bilateral Agreements and the Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways Statewide Agreements

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The Steering Committee of the Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways (OGTP) recently met and discussed the relation of existing bilateral transfer agreements to the OGTP Statewide agreements. The discussion centered on whether bilateral agreements must be consistent with statewide pathways (i.e., bilateral agreements are harmonious with the OGTP, but could go beyond<sup>1</sup> the basic OGTP) or whether there are instances when a bilateral agreement is in conflict with the OGTP, but both should be allowed. There were considerations brought up regarding the pros and cons of both options.

One example of a bilateral agreement that is not harmonious with the OGTP is a bilateral agreement that includes a math course that has different learning outcomes from the math course that the faculty panel agreed upon for the statewide transfer pathway (e.g., a bilateral agreement that included college algebra rather than the business calculus course required in the OGTP). Other possible differences were discussed, but the Steering Committee decided that a few more examples of bilateral agreements would need to be examined to determine the extent to which existing bilateral agreements are not harmonious with the statewide guaranteed transfer pathways.

### What we need from you:

We would like you to examine 5 examples of actively used bilateral agreements to see if they are harmonious with the OGTP Agreements

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<sup>1</sup> Adding items such as special advising, dual enrollment, extended experiences for community college students

### **What bilateral agreement examples should I examine?**

Pick bilateral agreements for which a statewide transfer pathway has already been created. Completed pathways can be found here: <https://www.ohiohighered.org/OGTP>

If possible, include bilateral agreements from different disciplinary areas (e.g., science and math; social sciences; arts and humanities; or business).

In determining whether or not the examined bilateral agreements are harmonious with (i.e., not in conflict with) the OGTP, pay close attention to the following factors, which could render the agreements “inharmonious”:

- Does the bilateral agreement include all associated TAG courses within the first 60-65 credits?
- Does the bilateral agreement require completion of the OTM within the first 60-65 credits (even though more general education might be taken after transfer as part of the bachelor’s degree)?
- Does the bilateral agreement encourage transfer before the completion of an Associate’s Degree?
- Does the bilateral agreement include special course sequencing that conflicts with the OGTP (e.g., courses within the first 60-65 credits of the OGTP are required to be taken after the student transfers to the university)
- Does the bilateral agreement include a math course that does not align with the math pathway that is part of the OGTP?
- Are there other differences which place the bilateral agreement in conflict with the OGTP?

### **What to do with your findings:**

Send your findings to Paula Compton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Articulation and Transfer, at [pcompton@highered.ohio.gov](mailto:pcompton@highered.ohio.gov) ; 614.466.3334